

MYSTERIOUS OLD MARS.

THE PLANET MAY BE THE HOME OF MEN.

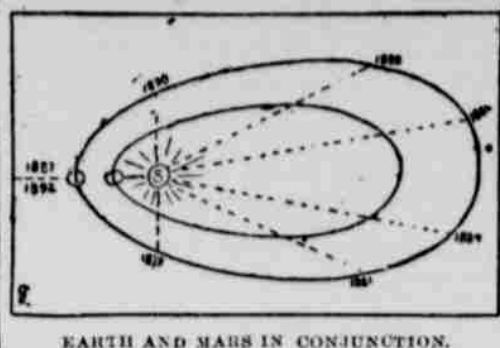
There Are Signs on Its Surface of Work that Could Have Been Done Only by Human Hands—Problems Astronomers Attempt to Solve.

Facts and Theories.

Up to within a short time ago very few people had anything but an indistinct idea of this planet. Everybody that knew anything about astronomy knew, of course, all about Mars, but when a man is harvesting his grain crop, watching the course of the stock market, or trying to pick the winners at a horse race, he isn't paying much attention to astronomy. All the view that the average man has of the planet is gained by looking at the heavens through the bottom of a soda-water glass.

But recently this planet has been in what the astronomers call opposition. That is very like saying to the average mind that peas and beans multiplied by cabbage make roast beef. So to find out exactly what the meaning of opposition is one must first learn something about the history of the planet Mars.

land, just like our world. It has, he says, seas and continents and rivers. As to its density, it differs very little from that of the earth. Gravitation at its surface must be much less than it is in this world. A man who weighs 150 pounds upon this mundane sphere would weigh about 60 pounds on Mars. The most obese of American stout people would, if he lived on Mars, become so



EARTH AND MARS IN CONJUNCTION.

light that he could dance as easily as one of the young ladies at Eldorado.

In fact, all substances would be reduced in weight by transfer from our world to Mars. Upon that planet our oak would become as light as cork. Our gold would be as light as tin. A glass of wine that wouldn't affect the small-

discovered fact that there is a scarcity of water in the planet. Necessarily the planet must be irrigated in that manner, and as there are canals, the conclusion is that there must be people there.

How the Canals Look.

The canals of the planet Mars are believed to have been cut for thousands of miles across the land to connect with the seas. They are green in color, like the water, and, in order to be visible through our telescopes, they must be from 100 to 400 miles in length. They must also be about 200 miles wide.

They mostly run from north to south, for the seas divide the land from east to west.

It is difficult to conceive of such enormous public works, but nothing else will answer. Our little canals would dry up in crossing a thousand miles of desert. (Conceding that the people who may live in Mars are such wonderful engineers and scientists, it is easy to allow them any amount of skill, and it is easy to suppose that on the vast canals they build floating cities, where they may enjoy the climate near the water, while the interior is uninhabitable.)

Wonderful Cities.

A city built on steel or iron hulls—iron is the metal of Mars—chained closely together and built upon wood and metal, would be practicable anywhere, but would be necessary in a world where the land is dry and arid.

If there are people in Mars, they must possess much skill and intelligence. So they would probably have been able to tow their floating cities to northern latitudes in summer. As the winter season approaches they would obviously float them southward, following up the climate, as the American Indians do with their skin lodges and women and children.

If a people can construct such enormous works as canals of the dimensions told in the foregoing, it would be impossible to tell where the limit of their skill would reach. They must be far ahead of Americans as engineers and mechanics. What other astonishing triumphs as mechanical originators they have achieved must be left to the future to discover.

What Astronomers Think.

"One circumstance," says Professor Proctor, that may at first excite surprise is the fact that in a planet so much farther from the sun than the world there should exist so close a resemblance to the earth in respect to climate relations.

But if we consider the results of Tyndale's researches on the radiation of heat, and remember that a very moderate increase in the quantity of certain vapors present in our atmosphere would suffice to render the climate of the earth intolerable through excess of heat—just as glass walls cause a hothouse to be warm long after the sun has set—we shall not fail to see that Mars may really be compensated by a corresponding arrangement for his increased distance from the vivifying center of his solar system.

Professor Swift says that there is certainly something that is mysterious in the topography of the planet, as viewed from the earth. "Some of its markings," he adds, "are changeable, and appear as clouds, while others seem stable and are indicative of solidity. As, however, Mars rotates on its axis so slowly, no belts like those enveloping Jupiter and Saturn are visible."

"That Mars is inhabited is an understood fact. That it was created to that end is a verity, but whether it is or not is only a question that we can judge by understanding its availability for the giving of life to human beings. No telescope has yet been discovered that truly tells that fact."

Prof. Schiaparelli is the only astronomer that has managed to draw a chart of Mars that as a planet exists only in the minds of other not quite so famous astronomers.

Aside from the discoveries of the Italian professor, the credit of finding that Prof. Schiaparelli is correct must be awarded to the famous Lick Observatory at San Francisco. The money to build this magnificent observatory was furnished by Mr. Lick, and it has well demonstrated his faith that it was needed by the fact that it has told the world that Mars is probably another planet like ours.

Took a Desperate Measure.

An English writer tells an amusing story of a country-house where a regular daily routine is observed, and where no chance is given one of breaking the monotony. It is of a man who wanted to stay in a country-house, thinking it would give him the opportunity of proposing to a girl with whom he had been in love for a long time. His visit was to last a fortnight, but the last evening came without his having had one chance of being alone with her during the whole time. As he sat at dinner (of course he was at the opposite end of the table to where she was), he felt that the time was fast passing away, and in a few hours he would no longer be in the same house with her. When the ladies went to the drawing-room, he would have to sit on in the dining-room. His host might allow him to look in at the drawing-room for a few minutes that evening, but after that his presence would be required in the billiard-room. In utter desperation he took up the menu card, and on it wrote: "Will you marry me?" He doubled it up, telling the butler to give it to the lady in question. He did so. She read it, and with the perfect sang froid born only of the nineteenth century, said: "Tell the gentleman, 'Yes.'"—Argonaut.

How to Care for Boots.

Much damage is done by brushing off dried mud from thin calf and kid boots with hard bristle brushes, and still more by the use of common blacking. In the case of ladies' boots, made of fine and soft leather, both treatments are ruinous. When boots are very muddy remove the dirt with a damp sponge or a painter's sash tool and a little water. Glaze kid boots, etc., should be sponged, allowed to dry and then thoroughly polished with a soft rag or handkerchief which is slightly oiled occasionally.—New York World.

Gould never offered his palatial yacht for sale until Vanderbilt came near being drowned and Kaiser Wilhelm's Meteor was left trailing by the English cracks. Gould knows when to get from under.

PECK'S LABOR REPORT.

DEMOCRATIC TARIFF SPEAKERS ARE IN ERROR.

The Results of His Work Tell Their Own Story—Like All True Statisticians He Was Governed by Facts as He Found Them.

Democrats in Trouble.

The official summary of the ninth annual report of Chas. F. Peck, New York Commissioner of Labor Statistics, has just been issued. Commissioner Peck is a Democrat of Democrats. He holds his position by the appointment of David B. Hill, lately Governor of New York, and Tammany's candidate for the Presidency. Mr. Peck says this concerning his report:

Now, I am a Democrat—a Hill Democrat, if you will—and I began this inquiry with the belief that the results would vindicate the Democratic tariff position. The first returns came from the silk industry, and were pleasing to me of thinking. But I am free to admit that the report, as a whole, is not in harmony with the Democratic platform, so far as the tariff is concerned. However, my duty as a State official is to report things as I find them, not as a reckless partisan would like to have them construed.

Mr. Peck's report is not as he wished to have made it. It is as he was forced to make it. The evidence came to him, and he could not suppress it. It is evidence that shows an increase of wages or of production, or of both, in 77 per cent. of sixty-seven of the chief industries of the State of New York, the period of increase being the first year of operation of the McKinley tariff, and the time with which this period of increase is contrasted being the last year of operation of the old tariff.

As to the methods pursued by Mr. Peck in his investigation, they were the only ones that could be used by an official who had not power to compel evidence under oath. He sent out 8,000 circulars of inquiry to wholesale dealers and manufacturers in all parts of the State of New York. He received 6,000 replies to his 8,000 inquiries; 77 per cent. of the replies were in the nature of evidence in favor of the McKinley bill. The fact of his being a Democrat, a Hill Democrat, a Bourbon Democrat, was assurance to those to whom his circulars were addressed that no fact adduced by him in opposition to the tariff would be suppressed. But it seems that few facts, or even opinions, in opposition to it were addressed to them; 77 per cent. of the answers were favorable to it. Commissioner Peck sought for, and expected to find, evidence to prove that the McKinley bill had not increased wages, but he found the witnesses whom he had summoned testifying that the wage list of New York was greater by \$6,377,925 during the first year of the McKinley tariff than during the last year of the tariff which it supplanted.

He could not suppress the evidence. Commenting upon it, the Democratic Labor Commissioner of New York says:

The result shows me the leading Democratic speakers on the tariff are in error as to the effects of the McKinley bill. The figures in my report speak for themselves, and there is no getting away from them.

This is the comment of a Democratic official, who is in possession of the facts of the case, upon the bloviation, argumentation, and prevarications of the Democratic press and speakers who are not in possession of the facts, and who do not want to be in possession of them.

The lamentations of the Mugwumps, says the Chicago Inter Ocean, are as unseemly as the attempted sophistry of a city contemporary is ridiculous. Too wise to attempt to break the force of this terrible exposure of free trade falsehood, the Mugwumps complain of its publication. "Why was it not suppressed till after the election?" they ask. These are the men who have been prating of their own integrity and of the trickery of the Republican party! These fellows, who are complaining, because a Democratic official did not aid in the suppression of evidence that is vital to the just determination of the cause at issue before the people, are the same who turn up their eyes in horror when a Republican official contributes to a campaign fund, and who wring their hands in anguish whenever a man who has been active during a campaign is appointed to a place of trust and honor.

National Revenue Increasing.

Just before the new tariff act went into effect importers took occasion to order enormous stocks of goods, which came in under the old rates. The revenues for September, 1890, were tremendous. After the law went into effect in October imports fell off and the customs revenue was largely decreased.

The great stocks of goods thus imported to discount the effects of the new law and enable importers to make a big profit by charging "McKinley prices" on goods that had not come in under the McKinley act have now been about used up, and the market is resuming its normal condition. Consequently the customs duties are largely increasing. On Tuesday of this week they amounted to \$900,000, or about double the usual figure. This increase for one day is likely to be followed up, and the receipts of customs for September will probably exceed considerably the receipts for August.

The Democrats need not worry about a "deficit" in the national treasury. The only way they can make one is by electing a Democratic House and a Democratic President, and that is something beyond their ability.

Political Paragraphs.

CHAIRMAN HARRITY needs a force bill to get the leading Democratic statesmen on the stump for Cleveland.—Exchange.

EVEN WITH NEW YORK the Democrats in 1868 and 1876 were defeated. As they virtually concede that they cannot carry New York this year, how do they expect to win?

THE INCREASE in the product of cigar factories in New York since the McKinley law amounts to \$4,379,050, and the increased wages paid amount to \$447,147.

DON DICKINSON appears to have been placed at the head of the Democratic National Campaign Committee mainly for the purpose of keeping him away from his own State.

LABOR COMMISSIONER PECK, of New York, says he is sorry he can't please everybody. He doesn't worry. Those who are not pleased with reports of prosperity in this country can find satisfaction in the reports that the cholera is coming. They rejoice over calamity.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

THE OFFICIAL statistics show that 89,717 workmen in New York are getting larger wages now than they received before the passage of the McKinley law, and that this increase aggregates \$6,377,925 per year. Such facts tend to simplify the tariff issue.

JULIA MARLOWE.

Eminent Authority Designates Her as the Greatest American Actress.

Few women have come to the stage who adorn it more than does Julia Marlowe. Her brief dramatic career has added to the history of the legitimate drama one of the brightest and most entertaining pages. As an interpreter of the favorite literature of the stage Julia Marlowe stands in the estimation of the highest authority in this country, without a rival. When upon the very threshold of her career she gave evidence of a most brilliant future.

It has been gratifying to the American public to look upon this young woman as the ideal representative of the classic drama, and the prophecies made by her friends four years ago when she came first before the public have not been the dreams of fancy, but have become a striking reality; and to-day the name of Julia Marlowe, as an actress of phenomenal genius and histrionic talent, occupies a most conspicuous place in the long list of illustrious women of the present generation. Miss Marlowe has set the theater-going public of America to thinking. With the delicacy and refinement of her art she has developed a new school. The time-worn methods of the stage have been cast aside by this young girl; whose very fire of genius has electrified an entire continent. With youth, beauty, and the glow of magnetism, she has given to the Shakespearean heroines new life and new blood—has made them breathe anew, as it were, until they stand out in brilliant splendor, harmonizing, as they do, with the individuality, originality, and gentleness of character so prominent in the young actress. It is difficult to comprehend the wonderful talent of Miss Marlowe and her marvelous career when one stops to consider that she has not yet passed her twenty-fourth birthday.

Sarah Bernhardt, who saw Miss Marlowe last spring in Philadelphia, made the prediction that some day she would astonish the world by her talent and beauty. Mme. Bernhardt also said of Miss Marlowe that she was the greatest of all American actresses she had ever seen.

Miss Marlowe is now playing an engagement to crowded houses at McVicker's Theater in Chicago, and is supported by Mr. Taber and an excellent dramatic company.

A Picturesque Superstition.

It was midnight when Elder Toots was getting home from an occasion where he had "pounded" the Scriptures, and as he passed the sacred shades of the cemetery that lay between him and his whitewashed walls he saw one of his own flock skipping over the high paling.

"Wha yoh doin' thar, Petah, at this yeh witchin hour ob de night?" asked the Rev. Toots in a shaky voice.

"Hu-zh-sah!" cautioned Pete, rolling his eyes in the moonlight. "Ise jest been a tryin to diskiver a rabbit's foot by de light ob de moon, foh to keep off de hoodoo, sah."

"G'way hum, yo crazy young fool, Petah, Ise clean done shame" ob yoh. Pruty soon yoh heah somethin z-z-zoonin, den yoh wish yoh know bettah dan to come on sich crazy erran," expostulated the elder. "It ain't de dark ob de moon, an' yoh spect to catch er rabbit?"

"My maw tol me—"

"Nebbah yoh mine whot yoh maw say on dat subjeck, yoh poh ign'rant boy. Yoh wasn't raised Souf like I were. Yoh got teh go in de dark ob de moon, recombah, and ef yoh catch de rabbit yoh membah it hab two hind legs, an' yoh pasture want one foh a watch chawm. Now yoh go 'long home."

This actual conversation concerns one of the most potent superstitions of the colored people, who are not wanting in personal courage, and will haunt graveyards while still in the flesh without any scruples. They believe that the rabbit's foot keeps off disease, assures them good luck in all their speculations and prevents any evil charm having effect on them. The belief is not confined entirely to the colored people, as has been frequently proven by finding the rabbit's foot on the bodies of white suicides or men killed in disaster. That it failed to insure personal safety does not impair the belief in its lucky value. There are three conditions necessary. It must be the hind foot of the rabbit, killed at midnight in a graveyard, in the dark of the moon.

Foolish as this superstition looks by the light of the nineteenth-century intelligence, is it any more absurd than carrying a potato in one's pocket to cure rheumatism, refusing to sit at a table where thirteen guests assemble, or persisting in regarding Friday as an unlucky day?—Free Press.

Driving in London.

Driving in the crowded thoroughfares of London is always a source of wonderment and admiration; but it is, of course, a question of practice, and the confidence that use begets. Writing on the subject of "Driving Competitions," the Field says that at the driving competition at Barn Elms the other day four pairs of posts, with ginger beer bottles on the top, and two planks were set up at fixed distances apart, while in between were two uprights and cross-bar, all of which required the most careful steering. In the last of the three trials the obstacles were brought to within 6 feet 6 inches of each other. This must have required rather a fine calculation, but that well-known whip, Dr. Adrian Hope, the winner, came through at a smart pace without disturbing plank or post.

EDISON has patented over 600 inventions.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

AN INTERESTING AND INSTRUCTIVE LESSON.

Reflections of an Elevating Character—Wholesome Food for Thought—Studying the Scriptural Lesson Intelligently and Profitably.

Philip and the Ethiopian.

The lesson for Sunday, Sept. 11, may be found in Acts 8: 26-40.

INTRODUCTORY.

We have come back again to "baptism," the original ordinance. There are some preachers, they say, who somehow bring their congregations around to a survey of the apostolic mode almost every time they are called upon to discourse. Well, the New Testament itself has a very frequent reference to the subject. It was not considered unimportant by the inspired penman nor by our Lord. And when they spoke of it they spoke out clearly and so that he that will may understand. Let us breathe a prayer here as with all Protestant Christians we open this simple scripture story: "Lord grant that thy teaching servants everywhere to-day be true and fair with thy sacred word. May they, with right hearts, say just what it says—that and nothing other. Amen."

WHAT THE LESSON SAYS.

The angel of the Lord. Rather, an angel—spoke the word of familiar converse.—"The youth, Greek: the mid-day, i. e., the region toward the meridian—Unto the way, better: Upon the way, (Eph.) which is desert. Not necessarily a sandy track, but one uninhabited. The word means waste. There are several southern routes, and this expression is thrown in to designate the one meant, i. e., the desert road."

He arose and went. The past tense of the words used in the verse above.—And behold. Now for the first time he sees a possible reason for the strange injunction. It was not entirely "desert" after all. A eunuch, Greek: bed-tender. The office late enlarged, Ethiopians. South of Egypt.—For worship. The participle is used in the original, worshipping.

Read. Better, was reading. The word meant originally to discern or comprehend. (Anagnosco.) The custom was to read aloud and with much of bodily motion. The thought being that thus the words read would be more readily comprehended and longer retained.

Then the spirit said. Not the same word as in v. 26. Probably a mental intimation.—Join thyself. The literal meaning is to glue, or stick fast.

Philip ran. In order to overtake the caravan.—The prophet Isaiah. Isaiah. The sentences were doubtless familiar to the Bible-taught evangelist.—Understandest thou? There is a better introductory particular in the Greek, not brought out in the King James. (Ara-ge) like the German: Ich bitte, or the English: I beg your pardon, a courteous form of speech, introducing a conversation. The apostle seeks of souls observed the little amenities of social intercourse.—What thou readest. It is difficult to escape the impression of another stroke of introductory pleasantry in the play on words in the original here (glossos anagnoscos).

Guide. Or be a guide, a teacher to me.—Desired Philip. Better, invited. This was what Philip was waiting for. A good lesson this in soul winning.—Come up. Same word used of coming out of the water in v. 38, below.

The place. Greek: the circuit; i. e., the locality of Scripture, the context, the chapter.—Dumb. Literally, voiceless. Dumb, without voice.

In his humiliation. It is the septuagint version that is being quoted. The translation made in Egypt.—Declare, or recount, told in full.

I pray thee. The language of a deeply interested, inquisitive man.—Of himself. A good portion of Isaiah was considered by the Jews to refer to the prophet himself.

Rejoice at the same Scripture and preached unto him Jesus. A sufficient answer as to the Messianic character of this passage.

A certain water. Something like the colloquial expression "a piece of water."—What doth hinder? What restrain?

WAS HE RUN 12,500 FEET.

And he arose and went. Like two answering bell strokes from opposite sides of the same metal come the injunction and its fulfillment here. "Arise and go" is heaven's command; "He arose and went" is earth's response. Obedience is the meaning of it, strict and full obedience. Is the church desirous of triumphs such as crowned the efforts of those early days? Let it go to God for guidance as did that early church, let it obey the early church obeyed. "Go ye into all the world" is Christ's command for us to-day. Arise and go!

Join thyself to this chariot. The word means to fasten, hold, as it were; glue yourself fast to it. It is the way to success, a sure hold of a given cause with a firm grip, get into some one's life, fasten to him until you have won him. The prophet put mouth to mouth, and eye to eye, joined himself to the child that he raised to life. It is the true spirit of the "win one" guild. Take hold and hold on. Do it, though it be with much of sacrifice; the reward is great. John Paul Jones ran up with his ship, the Bon Homme Richard, and by means of cables gripped fast hold of the British ship "Serapis," to take it or go down with it. He took it. The Spirit gives like integrity and like success when his mind is diligently followed. Take hold.

Of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man? A sufficient answer is asking the same question to-day. Are the prophets speaking of themselves and their own age, or are they looking forward to a Christ to come, one in whom we may also trust? There are critics who will tell us perchance, that the prophet was referring to himself or to Israel, and they will take such infinite pains to apply the word to the time in which it was spoken that they leave the hungry hearts of to-day wholly unfed, the mind unwatered, perhaps, but a needy soul unhelped. Criticism is good, but if it stop short of the Christ, it has done but half its work. Suppose Philip had given a disquisition here on the faithful "remnant," how feeble and ineffectual his message! But, you say, he was a preacher not a critic. Hold! There is no such distinction to be made. All preaching must be critical, and there is no Biblical criticism that is not, because of the subject with which it deals, preaching. The true preacher holds true criticism as his friend. Criticism is a part of the preaching process, but the criticism that goes as far as the letter and as far as Israel, no farther, is not Biblical criticism, but something else far different. These two principles of interpretation are to run along together. (1) We understand, on the one hand, the prophet's only as we understand the times in which they are written. (2) We understand, on the other hand, the inspired narrative of those times and experiences only as we perceive the "after-of divine events" toward which all the record leaped forward in ardent expectancy.

Next Lesson—"The Divinity of Christ." John 10: 22-30.

Subjects of Thought.

TEMPTATIONS resisted are stepping stones to heaven.

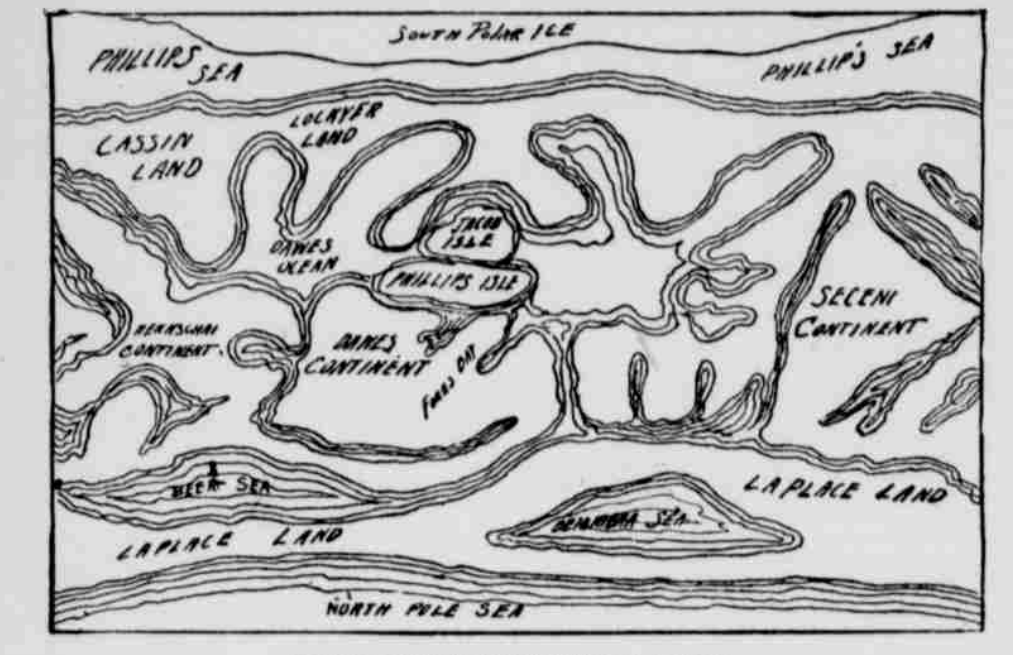
A FOOL thinks he is right because he can't see very far.

SOMETIMES we take a long step by being put down a bit.

INDEIGNITY is the greatest robber on the face of the earth.

It is hard to be a friend to a man who is an enemy to himself.

A SEED that will not grow is no better than one that is rotten.



MAP OF THE SURFACE OF MARS.

After that you can put on an easy air of knowledge.

Mars is the fourth planet in order of distance from the sun. It is nearest to the world on which we live of all the great superior planets that make the solar system. Mars travels around the sun in a mean sidereal period of 686.9767 days, on an orbit inclined one degree and fifty-one minutes to the plane of the



PATHS OF THE MOONS OF MARS.

elliptic, at a mean distance of 139,311,000 miles from the sun. This orbit is considered eccentric, inasmuch that its greatest distance, 152,304,000 miles, exceeds its least, 126,318,000, by more than 26,000,000 miles. When it is nearest to the earth it is in opposition.

Now the foregoing statement is technical, and to the layman's mind tells

est child in this world, would make a man in Mars feel that he owned that and several other planets.

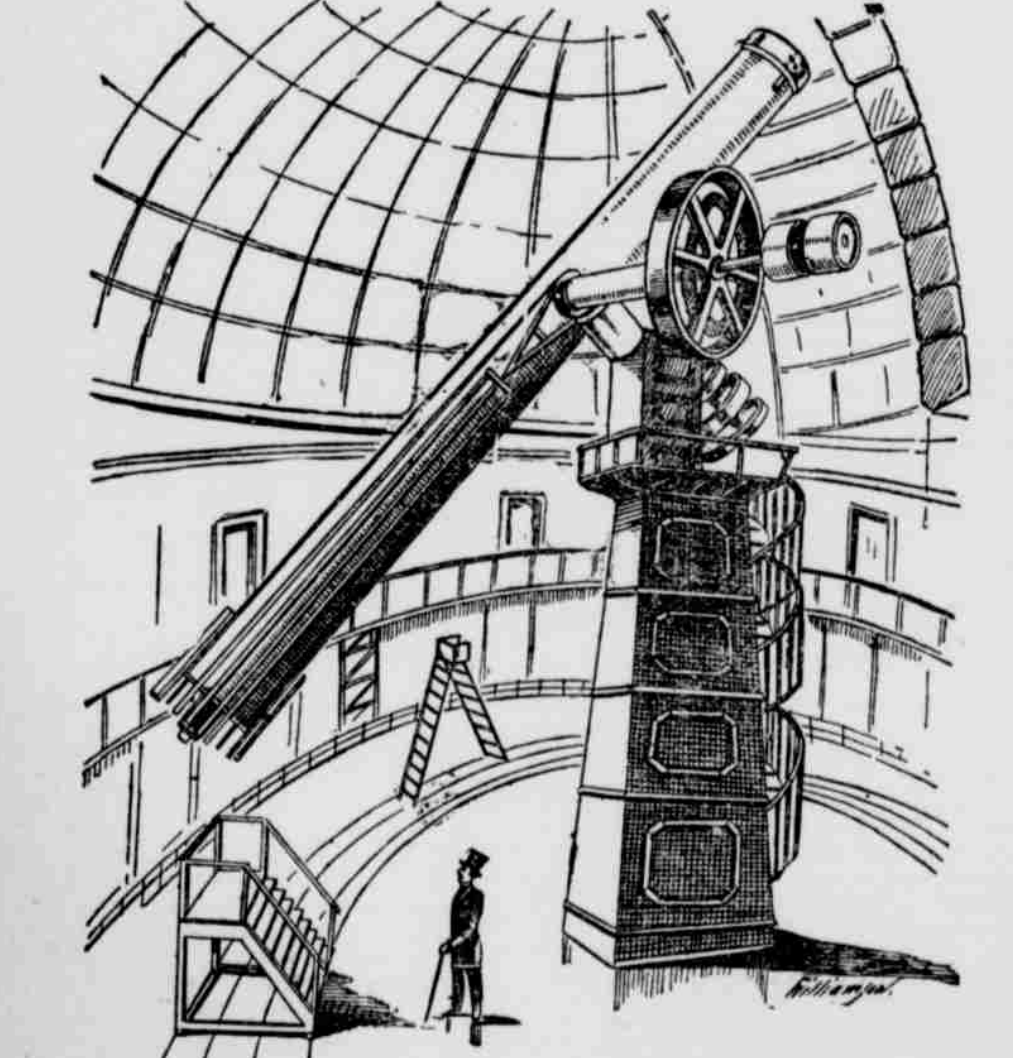
This statement may cause a sudden exodus of people to the planet.

I. Mars Inhabited?

The question just now is: Is Mars inhabited?

No one knows, of course, whether it is or not. The only thing to judge by is in the character of the planet gathered by careful inspection through telescopes. Astronomers are confident that they have seen the eternal snows of the two polar regions of our neighbor world. They are confident that its continents are red, and that its seas are green, and they are equally sure that its seas do not cover more than one-fourth of its surface. The seas on our planet cover three-fourths of the world, which points the comparison.

The scarcity of water in Mars is its most remarkable feature. The theory that people really do inhabit the planet is borne out by the fact that Professor Schiaparelli is confident



THE GREAT LICK TELESCOPE.

little. What the average man can see when looking through a telescope at Mars is a great big star.

What Mars is. It doesn't seem to be anything else, but it is. People who have made a study of the planet believe that it is a good deal like the world, and while they do not go so far as to actually say so, they think it possible that it is inhabited. It was some fifteen years ago that Mars first became a planet that had any earthly interest to the people who live on this globe.

A very wise man that used to sit up nights and look at the sky through a telescope first made known the fact that Mars was a good deal like the earth in its shape, and also uttered the startling theory that he thought it possible that the planet was inhabited.

People laughed at him just then, and he faded into the oblivion that comes to people who are in the habit of discovering facts ahead of time.

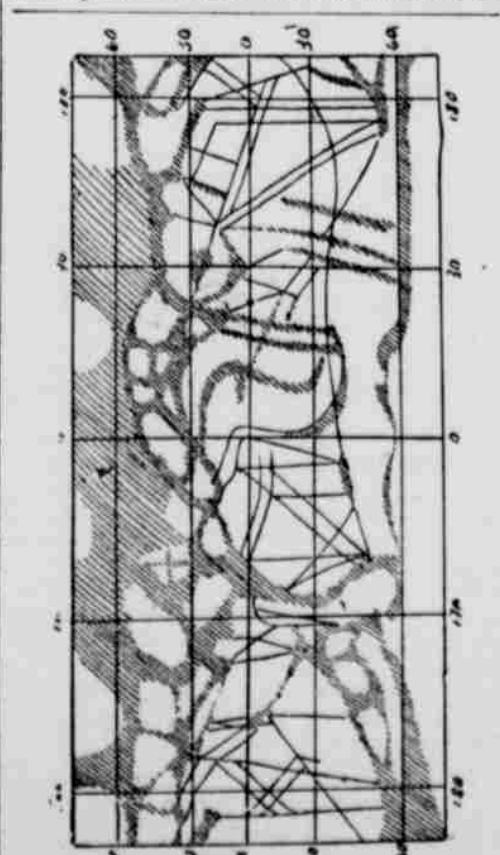
But after him came a man who told the same thing again in a new way, and who now has got to a point where the world is beginning to believe that he is right.

Professor Schiaparelli the Man.

The man is Professor Schiaparelli, of Milan, Italy. He says that in his opinion the planet Mars is not simply a nebulous quantity of vapor, but it is a solid substance on which animals and men exist.

He found that the planet has a diameter of about 4,000 miles. By careful calculation he is confident that its year consisted of 687 days, and that each day in time was forty minutes longer than our day. He also found that the planet was made up of water and

that he has discovered that Mars has been traversed by gigantic canals. It is easy to see that if there are canals on



SCHIAPARELLI'S CHART, SHOWING DOUBLE CANALS.

the planet it is a surety that people must have built them. The idea, too, is strengthened by the